

# ARKANSAS COMMITMENT

*Committed to Knowledge, Leadership & Opportunity*



ARKANSAS  
COMMITMENT

*Leadership Development For Black Students.*

ESTABLISHED IN 1999 by the vision of Dr. Dean Kumpuris of Little Rock, the Arkansas Commitment Program is a nonprofit organization created to identify academically talented African-American high school students throughout central Arkansas and guide them to become leaders of society at large as well as within the African-American community in Arkansas. We know that not all members will return to Arkansas after college to pursue their careers; however, we endeavor to develop a sense of responsibility to their home state and community. We also believe experience will demonstrate to our members that, given what Arkansas offers them, they will often be better off and accomplish more living and working here than elsewhere.

The ultimate goal of Arkansas Commitment is to ensure future diversity in every aspect of the Arkansas community and to retain one of Arkansas' most valuable resources — its young people.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To assist African-American students with acquiring the knowledge, skills, and professional experience necessary for effective community leadership.

## Benefits

- ◆ Cost — FREE!!!
- ◆ Selected members include 9th through 12th grade
- ◆ Guidance on course schedules throughout high school
- ◆ College and career exploration
- ◆ Extensive college search and preparation assistance
- ◆ Financial aid and scholarship workshops and guidance
- ◆ Test preparation on PSAT, ACT and SAT
- ◆ Numerous sessions on leadership development, interviewing, business etiquette, networking
- ◆ Community service and outreach projects
- ◆ Exposure to summer programs
- ◆ Selective internship program for limited number of 12th graders in the summer
- ◆ Program designed to help students realize and maximize their full potential

## Student Profile

**Average GPA:** 3.8 with 4 Advanced Placement courses

**Average ACT:** 26-28

**Class Rank:** Top 5-10%

**Average Total Financial Aid Package:** \$27,500 for 4 years

**Total Financial Aid Earned:** \$25 million

**Extra-curricular Activities:** Student body presidents and vice-presidents, class presidents, varsity student-athletes and team captains, civic youth leaders, church youth leaders, cheer-leading captains, newspaper/yearbook editors, valedictorians, band section leaders, All-State/All-Region representatives, artists, poets, competitive dancers, numerous recipients of area honors and awards, summer enrichment program attendees and researchers

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[www.arkansascommitment.org](http://www.arkansascommitment.org)

## College Choices

Agnes Scott College  
Amherst College  
Barnard College  
Boston College  
Bowdoin College  
Bryn Mawr College  
Colby College  
Columbia University  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
Denison University  
Duke University  
Emory University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Georgetown University  
Grinnell College  
Harvard University  
Haverford College  
Hendrix College  
Howard University  
Ithaca College  
Lehigh University  
Macalester College  
Morehouse College  
New York University  
Notre Dame University  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College  
Occidental College  
Pomona College  
Rhodes College  
Sewanee: The Univ. of the South  
Spelman College  
Stanford University  
St. Lawrence University  
St. Louis University  
University of Arkansas  
University of Central Arkansas  
University of Central Missouri  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Texas  
University of Tulsa  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College  
Washington & Lee University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wellesley College  
Williams College  
Xavier University  
Yale University

## How to Apply

All African-American students with a minimum 3.0 grade point average or above are invited to apply for the Program. The application is available online, and it can be downloaded and mailed or faxed along with all required additional materials.

8th graders are encouraged to attend an Introductory Session shortly after Spring Break to learn more about the Program and its benefits. Students will then submit their application along with a copy of their transcript and any available test scores for review.

9th and 10th graders with a 3.0 GPA or above can apply any time throughout the year as long as they submit their application, transcript, and available test scores as well as fulfill the expectations of the Program.

11th and 12th graders must submit the more detailed application as well as their transcript and test scores. Additionally, students must have an interview conducted by the Executive Director. Candidates are chosen according to: 1) overall leadership potential; 2) academic achievement and standardized test scores; 3) personal presentation; and most importantly, 4) sense of mission, goal-orientation, and initiative. The Executive Director takes substantial time to get to know each student's family and circumstances, and devotes much of his time to promoting the well-being and progress of each member.

## Contact Information

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